

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 TEL AV 08305 101206Z

11

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-03 EB-07 COME-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
PM-04 H-01 INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 USIA-06 FEA-01 OES-06 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /071 W  
----- 075507

P 101145Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4084

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEL AVIV 8305

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: ENRG IS

SUBJ: OIL EXPLORATION IN ISRAEL

REFS: (A) STATE 295273; (B) TEL AVIV 7742

1. MAIN POINTS IN REF A WERE PASSED TO MANAGING DIRECTOR LIOR OF ISRAEL NATIONAL OIL COMPANY ON DECEMBER 10. WE STRESSED THAT FOR USG TO MAKE A FURTHER APPROACH TO SCHLUMBERGER, WE WOULD HAVE TO KNOW WHETHER LOGGING SERVICES WERE INTENDED FOR EXPLORATION WORK IN OCCUPIED TERRITORIES AS WELL AS IN ISRAEL PROPER.

2. LIOR SAID THAT HE WAS WELL AWARE OF U.S. POSITION ON THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. HOWEVER, INOC WAS ENGAGED IN EXTENSIVE OIL EXPLORATION IN ISRAEL PROPER WHERE THERE IS AN IMMEDIATE NEED FOR COMPETENT LOGGING SERVICES. HE NOTED THAT SUBSEQUENT TO OUR OCT 22 CONVERSATION (REF B), THE NEED FOR SCHLUMBERGER'S SERVICES HAD BECOME EVEN MORE PRESSING. FOR EXAMPLE, INOC IS NOW ENGAGED IN DEEP DRILLING AT THE HELETZ FIELD NEAR ASHKELON AND THEY HAVE ALREADY DRILLED DOWN BEYOND ISRAEL'S CURRENT LOGGING CAPABILITY. THIS, IN A SENSE, THEY ARE DRILLING BLIND ALTHOUGH HELETZ IS THE SITE OF ISRAEL' ONLY PRODUCING OIL WELL AND THE PROSPECTS ARE RELATIVELY GOOD. HE SAID THAT THERE ARE OTHER AREAS IN ISRAEL WHERE THEY WOULD LIKE TO DRILL BUT HESITATE TO GO TO THE EXPENSE WITHOUT GOOD LOGGING DATA.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 TEL AV 08305 101206Z

3. THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT, HE SAID, WOULD BE MOST APPRECIATIVE

OF OUR ASSISTANCE IN PERSUADING SCHLUMBERGER TO PERFORM LOGGING SERVICES IN ISRAEL. INDOC IS PREPARED TO DISCUSS ANY ARRANGEMENT THAT SCHLUMBERGER MAY DESIRE--"DIRECT, INDIRECT, THROUGH A THIRD PARTY, OR WHATEVER". AS FOR THE AREA OF WORK, THE CONTRACT COULD BE FOR LOGGING SERVICES AT HELETTZ WITH THE OPTION FOR ADDITIONAL WORK IN THE AFULA REGION. TO THIS END, LIOR ASKED IF DEPT COULD ARRANGE APPOINTMENT WITH SCHLUMBERGER FOR INOC CONSULTANT AND GEOLOGIST ELIE ROSENBERG, WHO WILL BE IN THE U.S. LATER THIS MONTH. HE SAID THAT ROSENBERG HAD BEEN IN CONTACT IN THE PAST WITH SCHLUMBERGER IN NEW YORK AND IN PARIS AND HAS FULL AUTHORITY TO NEGOTIATE FOR INOC.

4. ACTION REQUESTED: LIOR'S PROPOSED APPROACH SEEMS REASONABLE TO US AND WE HOPE THAT DEPT CAN FACILITATE AN APPOINTMENT FOR ROSENBERG WITH APPROPRIATE SCHLUMBERGER PEOPLE. SINCE BOTH THE ISRAELIS AND SCHLUMBERGER ARE AWARE OF U.S. POLICY ON OIL EXPLORATION IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES, THAT ASPECT SHOULD NOT BE AN OBSTACLE TO A DEAL BETWEEN THE TWO PARTIES. (INCIDENTALLY, LIOR NOTED IN PASSING THAT SCHLUMBERGER HAD IN FACT SOLD LOGGING EQUIPMENT TO THE MEXICANS FIVE OR SIX YEARS AGO.)  
DUNNIGAN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** MILITARY OCCUPIED AREAS, OIL FIELDS, EXPLORATORY DRILLING  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 DEC 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976TELAV08305  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D760456-0619  
**From:** TEL AVIV  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1976/newtext/t19761252/aaaabstx.tel  
**Line Count:** 83  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION NEA  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 STATE 295273, 76 TEL AVIV 7742  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** coburnhl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 APR 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23 APR 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <16 AUG 2004 by coburnhl>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** OIL EXPLORATION IN ISRAEL  
**TAGS:** ENRG, IS  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006